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REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE BUENOS AIRES PLAN OF ACTION AND DECISIONS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE

SUMMARY

The present document is submitted in compliance with decisions 7/4, 7/5 and 7/7 of the High-level Committee regarding:

(i) Information on progress achieved in TCDC activities of Governments;

(ii) Progress made by the United Nations development system in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing TCDC; and

(iii) Role of women in TCDC.

The report contains an analysis of the information received by the Special Unit for TCDC, a summary of the emerging trends in the period under review and the conclusions and recommendations of the Administrator of UNDP.

This report is in response to paragraph 10 of decision 7/5 of the High-level Committee concerning the submission of a single document to the High-level Committee at its eighth session containing an analysis of the information provided by Governments and organizations, including conclusions and recommendations as appropriate.

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I. INFORMATION FROM GOVERNMENTS ON THEIR ACTIVITIES IN TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Introduction

1. Pursuant to decision 7/4 of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries submitted, in November 1992 improved questionnaires to Governments requesting information on their support to TCDC activities. The requests were accompanied by clear interpretation of TCDC and illustrating examples of TCDC activities. By the end of February 1993, 42 developing countries (compared to 39 for the previous reporting period 1989-1990) and 8 developed countries (compared to 3 for the previous period) submitted the requested information to the Special Unit. Offices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in five developing countries (Afghanistan, Haiti, Lebanon, Angola and Albania) indicated that no TCDC activities were undertaken during the period under review due to the prevailing political situation in these countries. The UNDP office in Swaziland reported that the country had not yet introduced the TCDC modality in implementation of projects/programmes.

2. The Governments of developing countries were asked to provide, for the period under review, 1991-1992, information on their policies and mechanisms, financial support for TCDC, and bilateral and multilateral TCDC agreements. They were also requested to report on network arrangements they support, on the promotional and operational activities undertaken and on the measures they suggest to enhance the utilization of TCDC. Governments of developed countries were requested to report on policies followed or envisaged to facilitate TCDC and on direct or indirect financial support for TCDC.

3. Some of the responses to the questionnaires were incomplete or did not comply with the suggested format. However, the responses allow the identification of general trends followed and the global progress made during the reporting period.

4. The following gives a summary of the activities and policy changes undertaken by Governments in strengthening their institutional capacities and mechanisms, of their promotional and operational activities and of their financial support for TCDC. The report summarizes the major trends and gives the Administrator's conclusions and recommendations for future action.

A. Information from developing countries

1. Institutional capacity and framework for TCDC

5. TCDC national focal point: A total of 16 countries reported having their national focal point in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, within the department of international cooperation, 19 countries indicated having their focal point in the Ministry of Planning, 1 country reported having it in the Ministry of Finance and 6 in different other ministries. It is to be noted, however, that from the information available at the Special Unit for TCDC, 75 countries out of

120 have their focal points within their planning and finance machinery. Bahrain reported not having a focal point. Most of the countries reported that their focal point is not an individual but consists of identified units. Fifteen countries reported having sectoral focal points in other Ministries, mainly Health, Agriculture, Transport and Environment. Sao Tome and Principe reported using non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as sectoral focal points.

6. The main weaknesses impeding effective action by the focal points appear to be: vagueness in role and lack of terms of reference; lack of authority and finance; lack of appropriate information; inappropriate location of focal points in government structure. Frequent changes of persons in charge of TCDC was also cited as a factor.

7. Measures envisaged/required by the countries for strengthening the focal point mechanism include: financial support from the Government; clearer terms of reference; setting up and sensitizing sectoral focal points; strengthening of data collection, information system at national level and flow of communication with other national focal points; assistance from the Special Unit for TCDC; better support from UNDP field offices.

8. Support for TCDC: Regarding specific national budget allocations for the promotion or application of TCDC over the concerned period, the countries varied in their responses. Viet Nam, Mongolia, Samoa, Maldives, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Panama, El Salvador, Uruguay, Guatemala, Honduras, Bahrain and Iraq indicated that no specific amount was allocated for TCDC activities. The following countries reported specific national allocations for TCDC promotion and application: Brazil, $141,000 in 1991 and $42,000 in 1992; Argentina, $4 million; Senegal, $75,000; Sao Tome and Principe, $100,000; China, $330,000; Thailand, $8.5 million in 1992 and estimated $8 million for 1993; Colombia, $79,800 for 1992; Chile, $1.8 million; Tunisia, $1.5 million. Pakistan and the Philippines reported the existence of the allocation without mentioning its amount.

9. Concerning the percentage of the national programmes and projects implemented through the TCDC modality and the percentage of the projects/programmes financed from external sources and using TCDC, the countries seemed to have some difficulty in quantifying accurately their answers to these two questions. The provided percentages range from 0 to 60 per cent for the first question and from 0 to 20 per cent for the second (see table 1). China reported that in 1991-1992, three projects were implemented through the TCDC modality and that a $450,000 project financed from external sources has been implemented using the modality. Korea reported that $7 million programmes/projects financed from external sources have been or are being implemented using the TCDC modality. Thailand reported that $2.5 million projects are implemented using the TCDC modality. Bahrain mentioned that two projects financed by Japan use the TCDC modality.

Table 1

Support for TCDC

Country	% of Prog./Proj. implemented through TCDC	% of Proj/Prog. financed from external resources & implem. through TCDC
Panama	5%	-
Uruguay	-	10%
Seychelles	5%	5%
Burkina Faso	2%	10%
Lesotho	2%	2%
Samoa	1%	-
Iran	0%	0%
Thailand	60%	$2.5 million projects
Viet Nam	0%	0%
Mongolia	0%	0%
Bahrain	0%	2 projects (Japan fin.)
Philippines	50%	20%
Colombia	0.5%	-
Peru	5%	-
Chile	2%	1%
Argentina	-	$100,000 projects
Honduras	-	0%
Jamaica	0.5%	1%
China	3 projects	$450,000 projects
Korea	-	$7 million projects

10. Bilateral and multilateral TCDC agreements: Most countries mentioned having ongoing and newly signed bilateral and multilateral TCDC agreements with other developing countries (see table 2). These agreements involve training, cooperation and exchange of technical, cultural, economic and scientific experience in different sectors and fields such as: agriculture, civil aviation, environment, computer science, telecommunications, education, health, trade and industry, mining, rural development, transport, urban development, small- and medium-scale industry, tourism and energy. Most of the agreements are among countries in the same region and subregion. Tunisia reported 30 existing agreements in telecommunication, industry and training, and 10 newly signed agreements. Mozambique reported having several agreements with different African countries and with Cuba. Brazil reported having agreements with all developing countries in environment, agriculture and urban transport, and has signed 32 other agreements during the reporting period. Viet Nam indicated existing agreements with India and other countries, but had not signed any new agreement during the reporting period. During this period, Maldives (which had no previous agreement), Pakistan, China, Samoa and the Philippines signed, respectively, 3, 190, 109, 4 and 163 new agreements.

Table 2

Bilateral and multilateral agreements

Country	Number of Existing Agreements	Number of new agreements
Tunisia	30	10
Colombia	36	-
Chile	18	9
Mexico	55	3
Peru	32	52
Jamaica	20	-
Panama	20	12
Uruguay	-	4
Brazil	-	50
Burkina Faso	4	32
Sao Tome and Principe	15	5
Senegal	-	2
Thailand	20	87
Pakistan	-	3
China	-	190
Samoa	-	109
Philippines	-	4
Maldives	-	163
		3
Total	250	738

11. Networks: While several countries are members of different global, regional and subregional network arrangements, the following countries are still not members of any network: Maldives, Botswana, Sao Tome and Principe, Lesotho, El Salvador, Jamaica, Bahrain and Iraq. The specific benefits derived from networking arrangements are reported to be the exchange of information on needs and capacities and on trade and import/export. Pakistan and China reported that the results of their networking arrangements are still under evaluation.

12. Promotional activities: Eighteen countries reported having carried out surveys or completed compendia on their capacities and needs for applying TCDC and mentioned that generally, the survey or directory had a moderate impact on the country's TCDC exchange. Eleven other countries reported that they undertook no such activities. The Philippines, Mongolia and El Salvador have executed sectoral surveys in the agriculture sector.

13. Nine countries (Chile, Honduras, El Salvador, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Senegal, Thailand and Viet Nam), reported having organized sensitization programmes (other than those supported through TCDC sensitization seminars) during the reporting period.

14. All responding countries (except Pakistan, Samoa, Mongolia, Jamaica and Bahrain) undertook a number of missions to other developing countries to discuss possible exchanges or plan specific cooperation activities. The number of missions vary greatly and range from 1 to over 20 during the reporting period

(see table 3). Tunisia reported that 50 per cent of its missions led to effective TCDC exchanges. Iraq mentioned that missions to three countries resulted in cultural programmes with these countries. Honduras reported that missions to Chile, Argentina and Mexico led to projects in different sectors. Brazil mentioned that missions carried out to 21 countries resulted in different plans of actions, out of which 23 have been signed with Latin American countries. Uruguay mentioned that the four missions undertaken resulted in 15 scientific courses and five joint studies with Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela and Chile. Burkina Faso reported that missions to two countries resulted in technical cooperation activities with Turkey. Senegal undertook missions to 11 countries that resulted in sending Senegalese teachers to Seychelles, Mali, the Niger and Gabon. Missions carried out by officials from Botswana to Singapore and Pakistan resulted in sending nationals to Singapore for training. Thailand reported that missions undertaken to five countries and to attend five round tables resulted in Thailand providing technical assistance to 450 trainees from five different countries. China mentioned that missions to 16 countries led to training provided to other countries in different agreements. Peru reported having undertaken missions to Mexico, Chile and China and that consequently agreements with Mexico and Chile are under negotiation. Argentina indicated that most of its seven missions to Central America and the Caribbean resulted in agreements. Iran reported 10 missions that resulted in agreements with Turkey, Pakistan and China.

Table 3

TCDC planning missions and results

Country	Number of Missions	Results in TCDC Exchanges
Tunisia	several	50% in effective exchange
Iraq	3	3 agreements
Honduras	3	effective projects
Brazil	21	23 plans of actions
Uruguay	4	15 scientific courses & 5 studies
Burkina Faso	2	effective exchange
Senegal	11	Teachers sent to 4 countries
Botswana	2	training of nationals
Thailand	10	training provided to 5 countries
China	16	effective cooperation
Mexico	22	different agreements
Peru	3	agreements
Argentina	7	agreements
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	10	agreements with 3 countries

15. Operational activities: The countries were asked to report on activities that meet the TCDC interpretation and criteria in the explanatory note that accompanied the revised questionnaire. They were particularly requested to report on the following:

- Experts provided to and received from other developing countries;
- Trainees received from and sent to other developing countries;
- Equipment provided to and received from other developing countries;
- Joint studies carried out with other developing countries.

16. The information submitted by the countries that responded to the questionnaire indicates that more than 3,750 experts and more than 5,300 trainees have been exchanged between developing countries during the reporting period (see table 4).

17. Over the period under review, Thailand provided equipment totalling $5 million to different countries of its region. China reported having provided $280,000 of equipment. Korea received $2.9 million of equipment and Tunisia provided and received equipment totalling $30,000 and $20,000 respectively.

18. Fifteen countries indicated that they participated in technical or scientific workshops during the reporting period. These workshops covered a variety of fields and sectors such as: agriculture, energy, mining, electrical/electronic goods, civil air transport, small industries, research and development. Eight countries reported having carried out a total of 95 joint studies and research with other developing countries on development issues of common interest (see table 4).

Table 4

TCDC operational activities

Country	Experts		Trainees		Equipment		Tech. & Scientific Workshops	Joint Ventures
	Sent	Rec'd	Sent	Rec'd	Sent	Rec'd		
Pakistan	16	68	30	14		$5,000	4	
Jamaica	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	0
Korea	39	250	465	500		$2,9m	20	57
Colombia	6		67	2			7	
Chile	32	15	25	350			13	2
Guatemala	3	50	152					
Brazil	274	20	12	181			56	
Ethiopia		20						
Thailand			1300	275	$5m			
Tunisia	1367			315	$30,000	$20,000	5	1
Bahrain			10					
Panama	10	21	50	5			12	4
Burkina Faso	9	50	12	0			5	
Mongolia	1			2				
Uruguay	3	12	19	5			15	5
Senegal							4	2
Botswana			3				1	
China	25			133	$180,000		42	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4	4						1
Argentina	65			30				
Peru	3	5	20				23	
Mexico	614	109	59	980			119	23
Mozambique		653	200					
TOTAL	2471	1279	2425	2784	5,210,000	2,925,000	328	95

2. General assessment

19. The countries were requested to assess whether their TCDC exchange/activities over time have increased, decreased or remained rather stable. Most of the countries reported that their TCDC activities were clearly increasing. Thailand reported that they were increasing in terms of provided activities by the country and decreasing in terms of received activities. Burkina Faso and Iraq indicated that their TCDC activities were decreasing. Bahrain reported that its TCDC activities were rather stable and that the country has first to establish a national focal point for TCDC.

20. Of the responses, Pakistan, China, Korea, Cape Verde, Peru, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Thailand, Mongolia, Ethiopia, Senegal, Uruguay, Chile, Honduras, Tunisia and Iraq mentioned that their Governments have a clear policy to use the TCDC modality to implement activities in high priority development sectors and to seize available opportunities as they are identified. Maldives, Seychelles, Cyprus, Burkina Faso, Botswana, El Salvador, Brazil and Guatemala reported that their Governments have no clear policy to use the TCDC modality, but they seize opportunities as they are identified. Viet Nam, the Philippines, Panama and Yemen indicated that they simply have no clear policy to use the TCDC modality in high priority development sectors.

21. The countries were asked to state the three most important measures they see as necessary to enhance significantly the utilization of TCDC. Although countries have generally different constraints in the promotion and use of TCDC, their views on the necessary measures to enhance the uses of TCDC are similar. The three most important emerging measures stated by the countries seem to be:

- Formulation of a clear national policy on use of TCDC;
- Strengthening of the national focal points; and
- Financial support for TCDC activities from specific national allocated budgets, from UNDP (SU/TCDC) and from other international bilateral and multilateral sources.

22. A number of other measures have been mentioned, including:

- Increasing sensitization activities at all levels: to encourage Governments to give priority to use TCDC in the implementation of national programmes and to allocate sufficient specific budgets for TCDC activities; and to encourage bilateral (developed countries) and multilateral donors to increase their support for TCDC use;
- Encouraging the involvement of the private sector in TCDC activities;
- Supporting improvement of communications between the different national focal points and increased flow of information on needs and capacities between the countries;
- Assisting in formulating and implementing proper national TCDC umbrella projects where they do not exist; and

- Providing comprehensive training of focal points in the use of the different networks and particularly INRES.

23. Pakistan suggested the encouragement of joint-venture activities among developing countries. Brazil suggested changing the signal so that instead of being mainly reactive, developing countries should be more proactive and prepare ready packages for technical cooperation to be offered to other countries for financial negotiation.

B. Information from developed countries

24. Eight developed countries provided information on their support to TCDC activities. Despite the interpretation and examples that accompanied the questionnaire, it emerges from the answers that there still exists lack of clear perception of what TCDC is to some countries.

25. While recognizing the importance of reinforcing the intellectual and commercial relations among developing countries, Norway reported that the promotion of TCDC has not been a top priority in its development assistance. Norway indicated that its assistance is based on the principle of concentration on a limited number of partner countries and regions. It mentioned having organized training programmes involving several countries.

26. Germany reported that it rates TCDC very highly within its development policy and that it considers South-South cooperation to have a key complementary function to North-South cooperation. As reported, the German assistance is to a considerable extent untied, which favours the exchange of goods and services among developing countries; its support to TCDC activities is done through:

- Promotion of international institutions of developing countries;
- TCDC;
- Training in other developing countries and use of experts from developing countries.

27. Spain indicated that it fully supports the promotion of South-South cooperation that helps developing countries to be aware of their own responsibilities in international development and in helping the poorest countries among them. During 1991-1992, Spain reported having used 325 experts from developing countries in its development programmes/projects and having financed 1,536 nationals from different developing countries for courses/training in other developing countries. France indicated that its financial support to TCDC initiatives is mainly channelled through its budget for multilateral cooperation. Ireland indicated that it has no specific policies for TCDC promotion. The Irish Government reported being agreeable, in principle, to third-party financing from bilateral assistance for TCDC activities, but has never been requested to provide such assistance. Ireland has sponsored students from the United Republic of Tanzania to attend university in Kenya and students from Zambia and Lesotho to take short courses in Zimbabwe and used developing countries' institutions to carry out specific studies.

28. Finland reported supporting TCDC activities in Africa and Latin America, such as the SADCC (Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference) regional forestry research master plan, and the forestry development in the Organization of American States (OAS)-implemented programme of cooperation between frontier areas of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

29. The United Kingdom indicated that its support to TCDC activities comes from funds allocated for regional programmes. It estimated that 40 to 50 operations meeting the criteria of TCDC are currently being given British support at an estimated total amount of £15 million. It also reported that most TCDC activities supported by the United Kingdom include some networking elements, that training in developing countries is used whenever suitable institutions can be identified and that experts from developing countries (except from Commonwealth member States in certain circumstances) are not used in the United Kingdom's bilateral assistance programme. Australia reported supporting TCDC in all fields of its development cooperation programmes. It indicated that many of the Australian bilateral projects involve training and seminars in developing countries attended by participants from other developing countries. Australia mentioned also that it does not generally recruit experts from developing countries.

30. Following up on decision 7/10 of the High-level Committee at its seventh session, contacts were made with the secretariat of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to explore ways of getting data and information on TCDC activities carried out by Development Assistance Committee countries. The consultation established that the information requested for the reporting by the Special Unit was not currently available. The OECD secretariat does not have the required breakdowns and does not capture information specifically on the number of experts from developing countries used in development assistance supported by developed countries. Nor does it have information on the number of nationals financed by developed countries and trained in developing countries. The OECD secretariat had indicated that it will look into ways by which the type of information required for reporting could be captured and generated. Since this will imply changes or additions in the present reporting procedures of OECD, the secretariat will submit the request to its appropriate bodies for approval. The Special Unit will continue to follow up on the contacts started and will report at the next session of the High-level Committee on the arrangements that might be agreed upon.

C. Conclusions and recommendations

31. Developing countries that provided information indicated that the TCDC exchanges/activities over time are significantly increasing. This is reflected in the number of experts and trainees exchanged, joint studies and technical or scientific workshops carried out, networking arrangements set up, and bilateral agreements concluded. For example, more than 5,300 trainees were exchanged between developing countries, and more than 3,750 experts were also exchanged (information given by 41 countries) compared to some 700 experts reported (by 39 countries) during the previous reporting period (1988-1990). In addition, the eight developed countries that provided information (compared to three for the previous reporting period) recognize the importance of TCDC in international

cooperation and some of them reported having already started to incorporate it in their development policy.

32. As emphasized in Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41, Governments of developing countries need, therefore, to mobilize the necessary resources and to give "first consideration" to TCDC in cooperation activities among themselves. Some assistance could be provided from the Special Unit for TCDC and the United Nations system to help in the formulation of national policy on use of TCDC.

33. The quantity and quality of responses still need to be improved and continue to be a source of concern. The capacities of TCDC coordinating ministries to gather and disseminate proper information on TCDC activities need also to be reinforced.

34. Strengthening the national focal points and coordination mechanism emerges as one of the major recommendations of developing countries. The Special Unit for TCDC will continue its support to regional focal point meetings designed for exchange of experiences and to strengthen this mechanism.

35. The lack of financial support for TCDC activities is still identified as a major handicap in the promotion and use of the TCDC modality in development work. Greater efforts and willingness are needed to provide the main inputs required, including increased use of the Indicative Planning Figures, increase in allocations from national treasures and flexibility by donors in the use of bilateral assistance to carry out activities implemented through TCDC.

36. In some instances, the meaning of TCDC and its features seems not to be fully understood. It is urged that the interpretation endorsed in decision 7/5 of the High-level Committee be applied and effective measures to accelerate the pace of the use of the TCDC modality in the execution of projects/programmes be adopted in each country.

II. PROGRESS MADE BY THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN IMPLEMENTING THE BUENOS AIRES PLAN OF ACTION

Introduction

37. This section of the report has been prepared in accordance with decision 7/5 of the High-level Committee requesting the Administrator to report at the eighth session on progress made by the United Nations development system (UNDS) in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA). It consists of an analysis of the information provided by 14 organizations and agencies of the United Nations system through the completion of the revised questionnaire agreed upon by the TCDC focal points of the UNDS at their meeting held at UNDP headquarters in New York on 15 and 16 July 1992. The report also contains the Administrator's conclusions and recommendations.

38. The 14 organizations that replied to the questionnaire are: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat); United Nations Department for Economic and Social Development

(UNDESD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR); United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW); Universal Postal Union (UPU); World Health Organization (WHO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

39. The organizations were asked to provide, for the period under review, 1991-1992, information on the level of support for promotion and application of TCDC, the related institution-building and the strengthening of networking and sensitization on TCDC. The reports received indicate that the promotion and application of TCDC in United Nations programmes and projects is increasing and that the pace of the use of the TCDC modality is also accelerating.

A. United Nations organizations other then UNDP

1. Level of support for TCDC promotion and application

40. Specific policies ensuring the application of TCDC: Most United Nations agencies and bodies reported giving increased special attention to TCDC during the reporting period. Several have extensively assessed their policies and activities during the reporting period.

41. FAO mentioned having issued Field Programme Circulars calling upon all parts of the organization to implement its TCDC work programme. It also issued an FAO Handbook on TCDC in 1992, clarifying the TCDC modality and procedures for FAO and developing countries' staff. ITU indicated that it has been using the TCDC modality in its technical assistance and cooperation work for a number of years and that its policy on the matter is carried in its Administrative Council Document No. 6967. UNDESD mentioned that it has steadily continued to incorporate TCDC in its activities and that, like its predecessor, UNDTCD, it has considered the BAPA a binding legislative framework for its TCDC activities along with subsequent resolutions/decisions on TCDC adopted by the United Nations legislative bodies.

42. UNCTAD reported that TCDC is a major element of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT mandate and activities and that the promotion of South-South trade is one of the priorities of the Centre. UNCTAD pointed out that trade among developing countries, which has rapidly grown in recent years, i.e. 16 per cent per year between 1989 and 1991, to reach some $235 billion in 1991, represents in itself one of the most successful forms of cooperation among developing countries. UNFPA reported that its Guidelines for TCDC are being revised to increase the effectiveness of the promotional and catalytic role of the fund in view of the enhanced scope of TCDC. UNIDO indicated that its General Conference adopted at its fourth session a regulatory framework for a UNIDO-wide TCDC programme defining 12 basic objectives and directions including: strengthening institutional resources for TCDC activities at the subregional and regional levels; identifying opportunities for TCDC; improving the flow of information on TCDC. UNIDO mentioned also that it encourages the involvement of the private sector at all its TCDC meetings, recognizing hence the need to

foster entrepreneurship as the steam and engine of growth. UPU indicated that its policy, in regard to TCDC, is guided by the resolution adopted in 1989 by the Washington Universal Postal Congress that made the TCDC concept a preferred form of South-South cooperation and which instructed UPU to take the required initiatives with a view to making TCDC the general practice.

43. WHO reported that TCDC was an integral part of its programmes, irrespective of whether they are financed from the WHO regular budget or from other sources. It indicated that, in order to accelerate the implementation of their Health-for-All strategies, developing countries have undertaken the examination of their own needs and capacities and the selection of ways and means for the exchange and transfer of specific resources that lend themselves to cooperative activities and joint ventures. UNCHS reported that fostering horizontal cooperation and exchange of expertise among developing countries was a cornerstone of its activities and that the organization set up during 1991-1992 a roster of national urban management expertise (UMEX) to facilitate the promotion and more systematic use of developing countries' expertise. UNESCO indicated that its Executive Board has consistently given its full support to the integration of the TCDC modality during the elaboration of the organization's plans and programmes. It mentioned that the decentralization to field offices of major regular programme activities has made the application of TCDC simpler and more effective over the past two years. INSTRAW reported that although its mandate does not envisage it as an executing agency, it was, however, engaged in collaborative TCDC research and training activities with other organizations in the field of women and development.

44. Specific measures and changes envisaged for 1993-1994: The United Nations organizations were asked to outline the specific measures/changes they envisage for the coming two years in expanding the use of TCDC in the implementation of projects supported by them. Most agencies reported that their policies for ensuring the application of TCDC will be strengthened and improved. Most agencies indicated also that they were completing national inventories on TCDC capacities and capabilities in their different fields of action.

45. ITU reported that the expansion of the use of TCDC is reflected in the increase of its related budget from 114,000 Swiss francs in 1991 to 400,000 Swiss francs in 1992 and 1993 (approved), and 1994 (estimated). UNFPA mentioned that through its increased emphasis on decentralization and national execution, it expects that more TCDC activities will be initiated at the country and regional levels. It also mentioned that it had initiated steps for computerized recording of allocations and expenditures specifically utilized for promotion and implementation of TCDC. FAO indicated that it envisages giving continued attention to: improvement and expansion of databases and information bases for TCDC; exchange of experience and dissemination of lessons, technologies and innovative approaches through networks, twinning, workshops and training; orientation of FAO and national staff on enhanced use of the TCDC modality. FAO reported also that it will continue efforts on progressive improvement of its semi-annual TCDC/ECDC Newsletter, highlighting innovative approaches and experiences, and that it will make further efforts to assist Governments in planning and executing TCDC activities for UNDP financing and Special Programme Resources.

46. WMO reported that it is expecting TCDC activities to expand correspondingly with the increasing volume of its Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP), which invites countries to provide technical assistance on a voluntary basis. WHO mentioned that it did not envisage any major changes in policy or strategy. It reported that its 1992-1993 regular budget contains specific allocations for TCDC support and that in one WHO region, up to 10 per cent of the WHO regular budget at the country level was recommended for TCDC support. WHO indicated that it will promote similar recommendations in other regions. UNCHS reported that it envisages an increased use of its new Roster of National Urban Management Expertise (UMEX) of developing countries, mainly in: land management; infrastructure management; municipal finance and administration; and urban environment. It indicated also that it will emphasize the promotion of TCDC at the global level through its Phase II (1992-1996) of the Urban Management Programme, funded from UNDP global and interregional resources and by a number of bilateral donors. UNESCO reported that its Bureau for Studies, Programming and Evaluation will be the institutional place where TCDC modalities will be put into final texts within UNESCO's sextennial plans and biennial programmes.

47. Extent to which TCDC is applied and significance of increase: The agencies were asked to describe the extent to which TCDC was applied as a modality in the implementation of their programmes and projects and the priority to accelerate its use in their programmes and projects. They were also asked to assess how significant the increase, if any, has been from June 1990 to December 1992, in programming projects that are fully or partially implemented through TCDC. Not all responding agencies have clearly answered these questions.

48. WMO reported that, except for its Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP) which corresponds best to the definition of TCDC, there were no special programmes in which the TCDC modality has been applied as such. It mentioned, however, that the TCDC activities financed by developing countries, within its VCP, have increased during the period 1990-1992 to reach a total of $868,000. ITU mentioned that the TCDC modality was used in a wide range of specialties in telecommunications, including training in various fields, management information services (MIS), financial consultancies, management, planning and maintenance. DESD reported that it continuously promotes and includes TCDC elements in projects under its execution, especially during project formulation. UNIDO indicated that in 1991 and 1992, 29 per cent of all experts and consultants recruited under technical cooperation projects were from developing countries and that this was above the 25 per cent target referred to in the Board decision. UNIDO reported also that 20 per cent of the total value ($36 million) of equipment and supplies delivered for technical cooperation projects in 1991 was from developing countries. UPU reported that its overall TCDC achievements have remained limited up to now and that, in certain fields, there was difficulty in procuring the required expertise from developing countries. It indicated, however, that it had noted some encouraging signs in the implementation of its programmes since 1992.

49. FAO reported that its Handbook on TCDC outlines features of the TCDC modality in the context of the agency. It mentioned that through TCDC briefing and orientation sessions, understanding of the modality was being enhanced, but much remains to be done in the way of "institutionalizing" TCDC. FAO indicated, however, that more networks have become operational, particularly in Asia and

the Pacific, and in Latin America. WHO reported having provided technical support for the formulation of the second medium-term programme on TCDC for Health for All for the period 1990-1995, for the initial plan of action on TCDC for Health for All (1990-1991), and for the Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development. It indicated that technical and financial support for the promotion and coordination of TCDC has been provided in the regions with the aim of triggering regional or subregional development strategies and/or priority programmes. UNCHS mentioned that its best example of promotion of TCDC at the global level was the Phase II (1992-1996) of its Urban Management Programme, financed by UNDP and other bilateral donors. It indicated that in the biennium 1990-1992, added emphasis on capacity-building and operational TCDC activities have been steadily expanding.

50. Focal point arrangements: Most of the agencies reported having focal point arrangements in place. UNITAR indicated having recently appointed focal points in sub-Saharan Africa and that TCDC activities are coordinated by these focal points. FAO reported that a TCDC focal point unit had originally been established on 1 January 1979 in its Field Programme Development Division, Development Department, but that since 1 January 1992, a single combined focal point for TCDC and ECDC was established in the Office of the Assistant Director General, Development Department. It indicated that this new unit comprises two Professional and one General Service staff and that it interacts with 24 regional offices. WHO reported that its focal point for TCDC is the Director of the Technical Cooperation Department. UNIDO indicated that as part of its restructuring process, the subprogramme ECDC/TCDC was transferred in July 1992 from the Area Programme Division to the Special Measures and Activities Division, that the staffing was reduced to two Professionals, and that consequently, the subprogramme could only accomplish partially the outputs foreseen for 1992. WHO reported having established focal points within the agency. ITU reported that although it had an official focal point for TCDC, the use of the modality within the organization was the responsibility of all officials in charge of project design and implementation. DESD mentioned maintaining the focal point arrangement established formally in its predecessor, UNDTCD, since 1987. UNCHS indicated that the Coordinators of its four Geographic Units of the Technical Cooperation Division have been assigned to act as focal points within the organization for TCDC activities in the light of their operational linkages with national Governments, country institutions and UNDP field offices. UNESCO reported that its focal point was within the United Nations Division of the Bureau for Coordination of Operational Activities. UNFPA indicated having assigned an officer as focal point. UPU reported having no focal point.

51. Most of the agencies indicated having participated in the UNDS focal points meeting held at UNDP headquarters in New York, in July 1992, which focused its discussions primarily on new guidelines for TCDC and the revised questionnaire on TCDC activities of the UNDS agencies and organizations.

2. Support to institution-building and strengthening

52. The organizations were requested to list the regional, subregional and interregional institutions that they have supported during the reporting period and which have significant TCDC efforts and to quantify the specific support

provided. They were also asked to highlight the TCDC features, inputs and lessons learned of three of their most successful examples. Most agencies reported assisting several regional and interregional institutions in their TCDC activities. However, it continues to be difficult to assess the support in quantitative terms. Out of the 14 reports received, only 6 provided some statistical data according to the format: FAO, ITU, UPU, WHO, UNCHS and UNESCO. The organizations continue to indicate the same difficulties in providing figures as in earlier reporting periods: TCDC activities are included in other technical cooperation projects; difficult costing of TCDC modalities separately; difficulty to draw a line between TCDC activities that support institution-building and those which support the exchange of data and experience via networking (as reported by UNESCO); incompatibility between the requested reporting period and the financial year of the organizations.

53. The statistical data received are summarized in table 5 below. Although incomplete, the available estimates show that six organizations have supported 85 institutions in different geographic regions, acting in different fields and the financial support amounts to some $12.7 million for the reporting period. The highest financial support indicated was from FAO: $11.3 million, of which FAO Regular Programmes, $647,000; and extrabudgetary resources, $10.6 million.

54. Most of the reporting organizations indicated having carried out some successful examples of support to institution-building and strengthening. As examples, UNCTAD reported: the programme with the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) secretariat to develop trade among eastern and southern African countries; Assistance to the Tumen River Area Development Programme; and the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community or PLACIEX in Latin America. FAO reported the example of Analysis Quality Assurance Programme/Check Sample Programme for aflatoxin analysis in foods in Asia; this programme has been launched and coordinated by the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) in Hyderabad, India; eight laboratories from countries of the Asia region participated in the programme at their own cost, with a minimum financial input from FAO ($6,000 for 1991-1992). UPU indicated the example of the Asian-Pacific Postal Training Centre (APPTC) in Bangkok that trains middle-level management staff of the Asia-Pacific region, which is financed by the countries and to which UPU gave assistance in the form of fellowships. UNDESD reported the example of the Hydraulics Laboratory in Paraguay active in the region in the development of mathematical models. Among the examples mentioned by UNCHS was its regional project in Asia, Public/Private Partnership in Expanding Access to Housing Finance, in which UNCHS has promoted the establishment of a coalition of housing finance institutions from the region (public and private) including informal sector credit organizations. UNESCO mentioned, as a successful example, a regional framework for cooperation between 154 Asian national press institutes and the Press Foundation of Asia that was established following a UNESCO-funded ($50,000) meeting of these specialists in Katmandu, Nepal, in 1992.

Table 5

Support to institution-building and strengthening from the organizations (other than UNDP) of the UNDS

Agency	Number of Institutions Supported	Areas Served	Kinds and Amounts of Assistance during Reporting Period					
			Financial	Expatriate Staff		Value of Equipment ($)	Other ($)	Total ($)
				No.	Value ($)			
FAO	20	4 Developing Regions	11,322,000	-	2,746,000	449,000	8,127,000	11,322,000
UPU	1	Asia	43,000	-	-	-	-	43,000
WHO	17	Disease, nutrition, drugs, water sanitation	200,000 yearly	-	-	-	-	400,000
UNCHS	15	Urban mgmt., house financing, shelter strategy	340,000	5	-	-	-	340,000
UNESCO	20	Hydrology, oceanography, press & radio, education	470,000	-	-	-	-	470,000
ITU	12	Human Res. Devlpt. Management	-	20	195,000		-	195,000
TOTAL	85					-	-	12,770,000

3. Support to networking arrangements

55. The organizations were asked to give information on the networking arrangements that they supported during the reporting period. Although some of the responding agencies indicated having supported networking arrangements during the period, statistical and financial data were, however, lacking for the same reasons as mentioned above. Only seven agencies tried to respond according to the format: FAO, ITU, UNDESD, UPU, WHO, UNCHS and UNESCO, as shown in table 6. The available estimates indicate that these seven agencies have supported over 77 networking arrangements for a total amount of $13.4 million. The highest figure was reported by FAO: $10.5 million, of which $3.3 million from FAO Regular Programme; and $7.2 million from extrabudgetary resources.

56. The agencies provided information on some of their most successful networking arrangements. UNCTAD reported that networking among trade promotion institutions was one of the major objectives in ITC's activities in the area of trade information. It gave, as example, AEANET, a trade information network linking the Asian countries, which was supported by ITC. As a successful example, FAO reported its support to the food crops network in Latin America and the Caribbean, which promotes germplasm exchanges in the region. WHO indicated several successful examples, including: the establishment, in the African region, of a network of regional diarrhoeal training units or centres in Ethiopia and Zambia for English-speaking countries; Cameroon and Zaire for French-speaking countries; and Angola for Portuguese-speaking countries. UNCHS reported, as one of its best examples in networking arrangements, the Phase II of its Urban Management Programme, which aims at strengthening networks of regional and local expertise in urban management and promoting a sustained programme of analysis and interchange of experience. UNESCO indicated, for example, its support to networking arrangements in the exchange of data in seismology and knowledge in earthquake-risk reduction, and particularly its financial support to the Regional Centre for Seismology in South America. UNDESD reported that it has been very active in the promotion of TCDC networking through its activities, especially networks focusing on specific issues, such as critical poverty, and building up social indicators for development planning. As an example of support, UNDESD indicated a network established in 1991 to undertake policy-oriented research in social indicators among Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras.

Table 6

Support to networking arrangements from organizations (other than UNDP) of the UNDS

Agency	Number of Networking Arrangements	Amounts of Support Provided						
		Expatriate Staff		Specific Activities		Other	Agency Funds Mobilized ($)	Total ($)
		Nber	$	Nber	$			
FAO	-	-	3,904,000	-	3,344,000	3,325,000	3,340,000	10,573,000
UPU	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WHO	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNCHS	25	-	-	25	560,000	-	560,000	560,000
UNESCO	25	-	320,000	-	640,000	-	320,000	960,000
ITU	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNDESD	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,300,000
TOTAL	77	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,393,000

4. Meetings, seminars and workshops

57. The agencies were requested to report on the promotional (i.e., organized for the express purpose of enhancing TCDC opportunities; or programming of TCDC activities) and the operational (i.e., organized mainly by Governments of developing countries to exchange scientific or technical information, with only complementary external support) meetings, seminars and workshops that they supported during the reporting period, and to provide information on their most successful examples. The agencies reported having supported a number of meetings, seminars and workshops. There seemed, however, to be a difficulty in drawing a line between promotional and operational activities. In addition, only eight agencies have given some statistical and financial data: FAO, ITU, UNDESD, UPU, WHO, UNCHS, WHO and UNESCO as shown in table 7. The estimates of this table indicate that these eight agencies have supported 195 promotional activities for a total amount of assistance of $5.3 million and 755 operational activities for a total of $4.5 million.

58. The organizations reported different successful examples to highlight the TCDC features, inputs and lessons learned. Among the examples that UNFPA indicated having assisted is a seminar on China's population census which brought together census officials from a large number of countries to learn from the unique census experience of China. FAO reported, as examples, training and seminars on the control of street foods and other products of potential risk in Latin America and the Caribbean. FAO indicated that the control of such products was receiving particular attention due to the cholera epidemic that

emerged in 1991 in Peru and that spread rapidly throughout the region. Relating to this, FAO mentioned that it supported a basic training course in inspection techniques in El Salvador in 1992 and a subregional training course on hygienic practices hosted by the Government of Honduras. UNCHS reported the example of workshops held in various regions as part of its Global Support Programme for the Formulation of National Shelter Strategies; the most recent of these workshops was held for Arab States in Cairo in December 1992 with over 50 participants, hosted by the Government of Egypt and the League of Arab States. UNDESD reported a few successful examples, including two interregional workshops organized in collaboration with the Special Unit for TCDC in April 1992 in Jamaica and June 1992 in Fiji, on guidelines for integrated macroeconomic planning and management for sustainable development in island developing countries. As a successful example of TCDC meetings, UNESCO reported a regional seminar on "Reading comprehension for children in rural and marginal-urban areas" held in Chile in 1992, attended by 13 leading specialists in reading from Latin America and the Caribbean. UNESCO indicated that its technical and financial support to this meeting amounted to about $20,000.

Table 7

Support to meetings, seminars and workshops for organizations (other than UNDP) of the UNDS

Agency	Promotional				Operational		
	No. assisted during period	No. of countries participating	Total of assistance	% of own participants	No. assisted during period	No. of countries participating	Amount ($) of assistance
FAO	30	Most member countries	2,483,000		37	Most countries	2,080,000
UPU	0				0		
WHO	1 (to come in 1993)	All member countries					
UNCHS	97	40 Asian 30 Latin American 15 Caribbean	160,000	12%	700	46	1,500,000
WMO					12	Most countries	868,000
UNESCO	14		210,000				
UNDESD	53	All regions	2,600,000		3	4	9,000
ITU	0				3	6	12,000
Total	195		5,453,000		755		4,469,000

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5. Sensitization on TCDC

59. The organizations were invited to provide information on their sensitization activities on TCDC. Six agencies submitted some of the required information: FAO, ITU, UNDESD, WHO, UPU and WHO. As shown in table 8, FAO, ITU, UNDESD and WMO gave some limited statistical data. FAO reported that during 1991/92, a total of eight seminars were held: participants included 110 national Project Directors, 11 government officials and 36 programme staff (country level) of FAO and UNDP. FAO indicated that TCDC was also included in a training course in project formulation, monitoring, evaluation and implementation held in Kuala Lumpur in 1993 for 13 participants. UNDESD mentioned having participated in different TCDC sensitization activities which aimed at generating TCDC awareness and application, such as the interregional project for training of junior statisticians and programmers from developing countries in other developing countries. ITU indicated that the African Telecommunication Development Conference for the Arab States (Cairo, 1992) and the similar Conference for American countries (Acapulco, 1992) were occasions to sensitize decision-makers on the potentials of TCDC as a cost-effective modality for technical cooperation. WHO reported that in order to ascertain the volume of technical cooperation activities outside the organization's involvement, its Technical Cooperation Department conducted a survey within its member countries. It mentioned that the results revealed a growing awareness and increasing volume of TCDC activities. UPU reported that its sensitization on TCDC is done through its programming and sectoral support missions and through its Regional Advisers, who promote TCDC and facilitate exchange of know-how among developing countries. WHO indicated that sensitization on TCDC is expected to receive more attention in the near future, especially after its interregional meeting on TCDC in health, scheduled in Jakarta in February 1993.

Table 8

Support to sensitization on TCDC from organizations (other than UNDP) of the UNDS

Agency	Training/Orientation for Nationals				In Country Training Sessions			
	No. of Events	Amt. of Assistance ($)	Kind of Assistance	No. of Partp.	No. of Events	Amt. of Assistance ($)	Kind of Assistance	No. of Participants
FAO	8	-	Seminars	157	1	-	Training	13
WMO	1	-	Survey	-	-	-	-	-
ITU	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNDESD	4	196,000	Technical	110	11	-	Technical	350

6. Other support

60. The organizations were asked to indicate quantitatively any support they provided during the reporting period in: strengthening of TCDC focal points; development of information systems; facilitating procurement from developing countries; private sector. FAO indicated that it does not have specific funds for strengthening TCDC focal points in developing countries as such and that national TCDC focal points are always contacted for discussion during duty travel of FAO staff. As to the development of information systems, FAO indicated the following systems as relevant to TCDC, although they also include information from developed countries: International Information System for the Agricultural Sciences and Technology (AGRIS); Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS); Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Information System (ASFIS); Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts Database. FAO reported also that it had substantially increased the proportion of its procurement from developing countries (6.5 per cent in 1990, 21 per cent in 1991 and 34 per cent in 1992) and that it will continue to make every effort to increase its level of procurement from developing countries. WMO reported that it is continuously encouraging procurement from developing countries and that, despite the fact that most of the sophisticated equipment can be procured only from developed countries, over 18 per cent of the total value of equipment and subcontracts during 1991/92 were procured from developing countries. As support provided for development of information systems, UNCHS reported its Roster of National Urban Management Expertise (UMEX), which includes a selective listing for each developing country of urban management expertise categorized as individual experts, training/research institutions and NGOs, initially in the following four areas of expertise: land management; infrastructure management; municipal finance and administration; urban environment. UNDESD reported having supported strengthening of TCDC focal points for a total amount of assistance of approximately $80,000. It reported also, as an example of support to private sector and joint-venture, the project of dredging the Paraguay and Alto Parana Rivers, executed jointly by Argentina and Paraguay. ITU indicated having supported the development of four information systems for a total amount of $24,000.

B. Progress in UNDP

61. The UNDP Regional Bureaux and other units were invited to provide, for the reporting period, information on their activities in the use TCDC, operational constraints, the specific instructions put in place, and the recommended measures/changes for the coming two years. They were requested also to give some statistical data and cost estimates on the main types of TCDC activities. The Bureaux and other units that provided information are: Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA); Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP); Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBLAC); and UNIFEM. United Nations Volunteers (UNV) mentioned simply that the only TCDC activity that it supported was the TCDC Workshop on Sustainable Networks of Cooperation among Grassroots-Oriented NGOs of Developing Countries, held in Nepal in November 1991. The following is divided into progress made by UNDP headquarters and other units (except SU/TCDC) and progress made by the Special Unit for TCDC.

1. Progress made by UNDP headquarters

62. Extent to which TCDC is applied and policy adopted: RBA reported that the TCDC modality has been applied in some IPF-funded projects, particularly for regional procurement. RBAP indicated that nearly half of all Fourth Cycle projects in the Asia and Pacific region had some TCDC elements and that during the Fifth Cycle it is the intention of RBAP to increase the integration of TCDC modalities in achieving the outputs of programmes. RBLAC reported that the utilization of the TCDC modality in the implementation of projects and programmes has been a characteristic in the region and that during the Fourth Cycle, TCDC was increasingly used as an overall substantive framework for promoting the various regional and subregional integration efforts in the area. UNIFEM indicated that TCDC has been mainstreamed into its programmes and projects and that it is most likely to occur through participation in training and/or networking arrangements.

63. Increase, since 1991, in projects implemented through TCDC: RBA reported that there has been a modest increase in country-IPF-funded project implementation through the TCDC modality since 1990, but that TCDC has been a significant component in some of the regional projects, particularly in strengthening networking relationships with similar institutions or government research centres. RBAP indicated that during the Fifth Cycle, TCDC will be an important consideration in the preparation of the basic issues paper for any given programme, rather than being introduced only later as a modality for execution. RBAP mentioned, however, that, given the large size and technical complexity of the Fifth Cycle programmes, it is not anticipating most of the programme being implemented through TCDC. RBLAC reported that a mid-term review conducted in 1990 had found an impressive identification and use of high-level technical skills from the area to assist in programme implementation. RBLAC indicated also that at project level, TCDC use was being achieved through the increasing granting of subcontracts to Latin American and Caribbean firms and institutions and, whenever possible, the increasing purchase of equipment from the region. UNIFEM mentioned that TCDC has been mainstreamed into its programme rather than in individual projects.

64. Specific instructions for application of TCDC: RBA reported that in addition to having TCDC included under the special consideration section in all UNDP/RBA approved projects, it has emphasized the use of TCDC through various approaches: regional workshops, seminars and meetings to promote TCDC. RBAP indicated that nearly all regional programmes will have a management process whereby all implementing agents will meet annually to develop the following year's work plan and budget, and through this mechanism RPD will be monitoring the work plans of the executing agents for their use of TCDC modalities. RBLAC reported that Governments, during their meeting in Caracas in 1990 to evaluate the third regional programme, have stressed that TCDC should continue to be present in future activities of the regional programme. UNIFEM reported that its Mission Statement specifies that the identification of strategic goals and objectives and the underlying programme philosophy all contribute to the use of TCDC whenever possible.

65. Major operational constraints of using TCDC: RBA reported the following obstacles: (i) lack of funds for follow-up activities after the catalytic assistance from UNDP or other United Nations agencies has been exhausted;

(ii) the concept of TCDC is still misunderstood by many people, therefore more promotional activities are needed; (iii) most of ongoing TCDC activities have no reciprocity component and therefore they fall short of TCDC basic criteria; (iv) African Governments have not established sustainable TCDC focal points; and (v) the region lacks up-to-date information on TCDC capacities and needs. RBAP indicated the following constraints as possibly affecting the ability to initiate sustainable TCDC activities: (i) funding (especially foreign exchange for travel and communication); (ii) work methods and habits, administrative rules and regulations, management styles which may not be conducive to regular interplay and exchanges between institutions. UNIFEM reported that the cost associated with funding TCDC was the foremost operational constraint and that occasionally language and cultural norms that affect women's lives may also serve as constraints. RBLAC did not report any major constraints and mentioned that virtually in the entire portfolio of regional projects either under implementation or in the pipeline, the TCDC modality was present as an integral part of the regional programme's development strategy.

66. Specific measures/changes recommended for the coming two years in expanding the use of TCDC: RBA indicated that various general workshops are needed at both UNDP headquarters and the field level to expand the concept of TCDC, as in the case of the Global Environmental Fund (GEF). It mentioned also that SPR should be allocated to fund concrete umbrella projects to assist the Bureau in funding TCDC activities and that use of TCDC resources should be flexible to enable the Bureau to respond promptly to requests from the field offices. RBAP recommended: (i) SPR funds should focus on financing start-up activities for elements of larger programmes; (ii) the SU/TCDC should develop a substantive capacity (either in-house or through a "stable of consultants") to provide specific examples of institutions and capacities which could be used for various programme components; (iii) innovative training is needed and some design and implementation assistance may need to come from SU/TCDC. RBLAC recommended that in the light of the fact that adequate technical and managerial skills do exist in the region, TCDC should allow a better performance of the tasks facing individual countries, especially vis-à-vis critical issues such as governance, debt, poverty alleviation and modernization of the public sector.

67. Main types of TCDC activities: The Bureaux and other units were asked to provide statistical and financial information on the main types of activities (training, workshops and seminars, institutional strengthening, networking arrangements) carried out in furtherance of TCDC and on their TCDC umbrella projects and operational projects implemented with the use of the TCDC modality. Only RBA provided the complete requested information. RBA indicated having carried out, during the reporting period, the following activities: 7 training activities (total cost $300,000); 10 workshops and seminars ($500,000) and 30 networking arrangements ($1 million). RBA reported also three TCDC umbrella projects, approved during 1987-1992, for: food and agriculture sector ($440,000); promotion of TCDC activities ($781,000); and South-South trade promotion Africa/Latin America ($686,000). RBA indicated finally that five operational TCDC projects have been funded by UNDP/RBA. RBAP reported that statistics were not available for regional programmes and that they were available from the PPMS database and ad hoc query. It indicated having no TCDC umbrella projects in regional programmes. RBAP reported seven operational projects using TCDC; three of them to become operational in 1993 and one still under formulation. Without giving financial or statistical data, RBLAC

indicated that a number of TCDC training activities, workshops and networking arrangements have been carried out in collaboration with the Special Unit for TCDC. UNIFEM reported that figures were not available because TCDC was mainstreamed throughout UNIFEM's work and was not isolated as a separate category.

68. The Bureaux and other units that responded to the questionnaire reported on a few successful examples of projects applying the TCDC modality. RBA indicated that to date, its onchocerciasis project was the only activity that had successfully applied the TCDC modality. UNIFEM reported a number of selected examples in three geographic regions (Asia and Pacific, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean).

2. Special Unit for TCDC

69. The promotional work of the Special Unit for TCDC over the two years 1991-1992 covered a broad spectrum. It included assistance in the matching of capacities and needs between developing countries, the organizing of inter-country specific workshops, the expansion of training and sensitization on TCDC, and the further development of the TCDC-INRES database on developing country institutional capacities. These activities continued in 1992, the first year of UNDP's Fifth Programming Cycle (1992-1996). As part of the Fifth Cycle strategy for the promotion of TCDC, increased attention was given to supporting networking and twinning arrangements within groups of countries.

70. The Special Unit supported, during the period 1991-1992, eight capacities and needs-matching exercises in the important sectors such as: food and agriculture, mining and environment, technologies in health development, coconut development industry, training and management, and in small- and medium-scale enterprises in the manufacture of electric-electronic goods. With the support of the Special Unit, the developing countries were able to reach interregional and bilateral TCDC agreements which facilitated exchanges in training, studies, species exchanges, consultant services and some equipment. It also supported 37 specific workshops: 12 in Africa, 2 in Eastern and Central Europe, 6 in Asia and the Pacific and 17 in Latin America and the Caribbean. These workshops involved actual exchange of practical information, skills and technology.

71. Sensitization and information activities have been intensified, targeting Governments, the UNDS, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other key actors in the development process. At the same time, the Special Unit was pursuing a policy of decentralizing its sensitization and orientation activities and fully delegating them to Governments and UNDP field offices, with the Special Unit providing resource persons, orientation materials, such as a trainers' guide, audiovisual material and brochures.

72. The organization of national TCDC focal point meetings has been, and continues to be, one of the most important activities of the Special Unit. These workshops enable the focal points to have a clear understanding of their role and to be kept up to date on relevant decisions of United Nations bodies. During 1991-1992, meetings of focal points were held in three regions: one for Asia and the Pacific, held in Seoul in September 1991; one for the Arab region, held in Damascus in August 1992; and one for Latin America and the Caribbean,

held in Caracas in September 1992. The meeting for Africa was postponed to 1993 and was held last February in Addis Ababa.

73. The TCDC-INRES database continues to serve as a key source of information on capacities existing in developing countries. This database currently contains information on over 4,300 institutions in the developing world. INRES is also pursuing a policy of selected decentralization. The database has been installed at 15 outpost locations in Governments, UNDP field offices and United Nations agencies. Based on an in-depth evaluation, a major updating and qualitative improvement of the database is under way. The registrations for about 20 countries per year are undertaken using national consultants.

74. The information received by the Special Unit from Governments and UNDP Regional Bureaux (table 9) indicates that TCDC umbrella projects, national allocations, and IPF Allocation for TCDC are continuously increasing. The national allocation amounts to some $8.8 million for Latin America and the Caribbean; $30.8 million for Asia and the Pacific; $1.5 million for Arab States; and $175,000 for Africa, as reported by some countries of these regions. These regions have some 35 TCDC umbrella projects totalling $22.5 million.

Table 9

Special Unit for TCDC
Global information on TCDC

Region	Umbrella Projects (UNDP)				National Allocation for TCDC	
	No.	Total ($)	IPF ($)	CS ($)	Total ($)	IPF $)
Africa	11	5,000,000	5,000,000		175,000 a/	-
Latin America & Caribbean	9	9,936,000	4,294,000	5,642,000	8,789,000 b/	-
Asia & Pacific	8	3,203,000	3,203,000	3,203,000	30,830,000 c/	-
Arab States & Europe	7	4,369,000	-	-	1,500,000 d/	-
Total	35	22,508,000	-	-	41,294,000	-

a/ Reported by Senegal and Sao Tome and Principe.

b/ Reported by six countries in the Fourth Cycle (Argentina, Brazil, Jamaica, Mexico, Uruguay, Venezuela).

c/ Reported by Korea, Thailand and China.

d/ Reported by Tunisia.

75. The Special Unit for TCDC undertook an extensive evaluation of its practices and activities in 1991. Major categories of activities were evaluated by independent consultants whose recommendations have since then been adopted. Programming exercises, TCDC-INRES mechanisms, the functioning of focal points, and sensitization and orientation activities were all carefully reviewed to bring about coherence, improved procedures and qualitative improvements in the support the Unit provides. The findings also serve as the basis for the preparation of a programming document and strategy approved by the Governing Council for the Fifth Programming Cycle at its special session of February 1992. The document outlines the priority areas, the criteria and the features of the strategy for the programming cycle. Within UNDP, TCDC is not only one of the six priority areas but is also the subject of special attention in programme and project preparation and approval including in the UNDP Action Committee, Policy and Operations Teams, and Project Appraisal Committees of Bureaux and of other units of UNDP.

76. Joint financing of activities and complementarity of efforts have been successfully encouraged with the major United Nations organizations, especially with FAO, UNDESD, WHO and UNIDO. In all these cases, the organizations shared, in addition to providing technical support, the costs of financing TCDC activities with the Special Unit. United Nations organizations contributed about half of the $1.2 million spent for 19 activities financed in 1992. Measures have been taken to transfer from Headquarters to field offices and national focal points, sensitization and orientation activities, instead of providing staff from New York Headquarters. Twelve people from the respective regions are now available as resource persons to help with sensitization and orientation activities. Greater emphasis is being given to studies and evaluation, especially in identifying successful and innovative activities and disseminating information.

77. The Unit's public information work has been greatly increased by the production of information material such as brochures, posters, focus newsletters and Cooperation South magazine. A video on TCDC for global use is under preparation.

78. Cooperation South is a thrice-yearly magazine focusing on TCDC and South-South cooperation generally. It has a global circulation of approximately 36,000, both in developed and developing countries, comprising readers from the following main groups: universities and colleges, research and training institutes, media, non-governmental organizations, government agencies and ministries, private sector firms, organizations of the United Nations system and other international bodies, professional and trade associations, and country missions to the United Nations. In addition, there is a significant section of readers who do not belong to these categories but are interested in development issues and South-South cooperation.

79. In 1992, over 3,000 officials, experts, etc. have participated in activities sponsored by the Special Unit. In all cases, the participants were from developing countries and the activities were organized by the Governments or the institutions of developing countries.

80. Since the adoption of BAPA, the importance and continued validity of TCDC for national and collective self-reliance has been repeatedly reaffirmed, most

prominently in 1989 by the United Nations General Assembly, and most recently in Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41. This resolution, which has been forwarded by a Special Unit's letter under signature of the Administrator to field offices, "calls upon all parties in the development effort to make concerted, planned and vigorous endeavours to benefit from utilization of the capacities of developing countries, by giving full support and first consideration to the use of the modality of TCDC".

C. Conclusions and recommendations

81. The information provided by the United Nations organizations shows clearly the increasingly high priority they attached to TCDC. Promotional and operational activities supported by or through the system are increasing, as indicated by the number and amount of the umbrella and operational projects.

82. Nearly all responding organizations reported having adopted or being in the process of adopting policies to accelerate the use of the TCDC modality in the implementation of programmes and projects at the country, regional and interregional levels. The UNDP Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, for instance, reported that in virtually its entire portfolio of regional projects either under implementation or in the pipeline, the use of the TCDC modality is an integral part of the regional programme's development strategy. The trend will be accelerated by intensified sensitization of national and United Nations agencies staff to the benefits and comparative advantage of TCDC.

83. The major operational constraints of utilizing the TCDC modality appear to be (i) the lack of funds for follow-up activities after catalytic assistance provided; (ii) the need for stronger commitment and effort to use/apply the modality.

84. As in previous reporting periods, it is still difficult to estimate the overall UNDS support in statistical and financial terms because, quite often, TCDC components are either part of larger projects or it is applied as a modality for execution. The United Nations organizations are making efforts to give a minimum of standardized statistical data to be used for measuring the progress.

85. Although questionnaires have been revised in consultation with United Nations organizations, some of the responding organizations did not comply with the proposed format and reported according to their own format. Although substantial information is still given, the non-standardization of responses increases the difficulty to assess the progress in a comparative manner.

86. Most of the organizations operate on a calendar-year basis, and do not have final data on a given year's activities until late March of the following year, which does not fit in with the timing of the High-level Committee's sessions, and required deadline for submitting the information for the preparation of the progress report. It is therefore suggested to review the timing for submitting the required information in the month of June.

87. The measures being taken to strengthen the substantive role of the Special Unit in identifying and disseminating information on successful experiences and innovative approaches and undertaking analytical work are to be expanded and given full support by all parties.

88. The trend towards much greater complementarity in efforts and resources between the various United Nations organizations is a welcome development since it ensures more substantive support to activities being undertaken.

III. ROLE OF WOMEN IN TCDC

89. The following has been prepared in compliance with decision 7/7 of the High-level Committee requesting the Administrator to report at the eighth session on progress made in the role of women in technical cooperation among developing countries.

90. A number of TCDC activities were supported by the Special Unit to encourage the participation of women in development through TCDC arrangements. Funding has been provided for the Grass-roots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS) networking activities aimed at accelerating development by strengthening grass-roots women's approaches to solving their own problems and by helping them provide leadership in the development of their communities.

91. The Special Unit for TCDC has played a catalytic role in supporting the South Asia network of eight NGOs in that region organized by GROOTS India (the Working Women's Forum WWF). This workshop established the South Asia Task Force and the Newsletter for GROOTS South Asia which is distributed to over 500 organizations world wide. More recently, TCDC support was provided to a workshop hosted by the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration and the Lolonyo Women's Club for the promotion of women's organizations for effective community leadership and involvement in the development process.

92. Women are in key positions to promote and implement TCDC activities. Numerous national TCDC focal points are also women. In the decision-making process, Governments, NGOs and the private sector in the Latin America and Caribbean region have women in the Directorate for promoting and implementing TCDC activities. The coordinator of a recent workshop in Mexico on development of enterprise and industrial parks is a woman. The TCDC workshop on energy sustainable rural development was coordinated by a woman from the Argentine Ministry for Science and Technology and the main users of solar heating/drying and wind power are women in the rural areas.

93. In addition, a number of the United Nations organizations reported TCDC activities integrating women and particularly UNIFEM which indicated the following successful examples joining women in development and TCDC activities in the three regions, Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean:

- In the process of moving from a centrally planned economy to a free market economy, women leaders from the Mongolian Women's Federation learned Indonesian experiences of women's organizations in micro-enterprises. This activity also received support from ESCAP;

- To learn about small enterprise development and credit programmes, the leaders of the Association of Rural Women Entrepreneurs (ARWEs) of the United Republic of Tanzania went to Kenya. They also went to the Grameen Bank to learn about credit initiatives to be applied in the United Republic of Tanzania;

- To facilitate the establishment of a regional network, Caribbean and African women shared their experience with women from Brazil and the Dominican Republic, relating to the elimination of sexual and domestic violence.

94. The encouragement of the participation of women in all the activities financed to promote TCDC is a basic policy in all the United Nations organizations.

Annex I

List of countries that provided information

A. Developing countries

Africa	Asia and Pacific	Latin America and Caribbean	Arab States	Europe
Angola	China	Argentina	Bahrain	Cyprus
Benin	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Brazil	Iraq	
Botswana	Maldives	Chile	Jordan	
Burkina Faso	Mongolia	Colombia	Syrian Arab Republic	
Cape Verde	Pakistan	El Salvador	Tunisia	
Ethiopia	Philippines	Guatemala	Yemen	
Lesotho	Republic of Korea	Honduras		
Mozambique	Samoa	Jamaica		
Rwanda	Thailand	Mexico		
Sao Tome and Principe	Viet Nam	Panama		
Senegal		Peru		
Seychelles		Uruguay		
		Venezuela		

B. Developed countries

Australia
Finland
France
Germany
Ireland
Norway
Spain
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Annex II

List of United Nations organizations that provided information on their TCDC activities

UNDP HEADQUARTERS AND AFFILIATED BODIES

RBA

RBAP

RBLAC

UNIFEM

UNV

UNDS ORGANIZATIONS

FAO

INSTRAW

ITU

UNCHS

UNCTAD

UNDESD

UNESCO

UNFPA

UNIDO

UNITAR

UPU

WFP (no comments)

WHO

WMO